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Response to June 13, 2007 Final Office Action

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Docket No. 4208-4144

PROPOSED REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5, 10 and 28, 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being patentable over Auckland, US Pub No. 2003/0078037 in view of McCorkle, US Pub No.: 2003/0174048.

Applicants' Proposed Response

A. Auckland in view of McCorkle

1. Auckland:

Auckland at Paragraphs 0188-0192 discloses a base station in a cellular network receives requests for resources from roaming mobile devices. The request for resources is initiated by a device via an initiating channel linked to the base station. The request may include identifying information and resource specific information. The resources are chosen by the base station for an optimum forward and reverse channel. The identifying information is communicated to the device by the base station via the chosen transmit and receive channel.

In contrast, in the Applicants' claimed invention, an initiating device in an ad hoc network determines over a first short-range communications link, the capabilities of a remote device for communications over a second short-range communications link operating according to a second short-range communications protocol. If the capabilities exist, the initiating device proceeds to establish the second link while the first link remains active.

Applicants contend that Auckland does not describe a first or a second short-range communications link. Auckland only describes a cellular link. Moreover, Auckland discloses in Paragraph 0189 the base station in choosing forward/reverse channels for the requesting device considers factors including requirement of the subscriber unit, traffic at the time required for communication, alternatives at the location. None of the factors considered by Auckland relate

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to determining whether a remote device is capable of supporting a second short-range communications link operating according to a second short-range communications protocol.

Auckland does not teach that a base station determines capability of a requesting device, but simply decides on what communication channels are used. Further, Auckland fails to disclose the base station exchanging information with the requesting device for establishing the second link and initiating the second link based on the exchanged information via the first link, as claimed by the Applicants.

2. McCorkle

McCorkle discloses a local device wirelessly communicating with remote devices, typically identification tags by RF and UWB. The local device uses the RF to detect and connect to remote devices having UWB transceivers, after the local device determines the identification and distance of the remote device. The UWB transceiver, after connection, performs the necessary communication function with the local device. The UWB transceiver is turned off when communication with the local device ends. During the UWB transmissions, the RF transceiver is de-activated and periodically activated as described in Paragraph 0111 of McCorkle.

McCorkle fails to disclose or suggest determining whether a wireless device is capable of UWB transmissions. McCorkle discloses that all remote devices include UWB transceivers. Further, the McCorkle network is established with the local devices linked to the remote devices via UWB links. There is no exchanging of information in McCorkle between the local device and the remote device to establish a second short-range communications link operating according to a second short-range communications protocol, wherein if the capabilities exist, the initiating

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device proceeds to establish the second link while the first link remains active, as claimed by the Applicants.

McCorkle does not supply the missing feature of relaying communication to another device. McCorkle shows the tag (base station) communicating with another device. However, McCorkle does not disclose exchanging information with another device to establish a UWB link, because the link is already established and only needs to be activated.

The combination of Auckland and McCorkle fails to disclose or suggest the Applicants' claimed invention of [1] determining through a first short-range communications link whether the remote device is capable of supporting communications over a second short-range communications link operating according to a second short-range communications protocol, [2] exchanging information with the remote device across the first communications link to establish the second short-range communications link if the remote device is determined to be capable of supporting communications over the second short-range communications link, [3] establishing the second short-range communications link with the remote device based on the information exchanged across the first short-range communications link, and [4] controlling transmissions of the first and second communication links to operate in a scheduled manner.

Accordingly, Claims 1, 2, 5, 10 and 28, 29 are patentable over Auckland, US Pub No. 2003/0078037 in view of McCorkle, US Pub No.: 2003/0174048.

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's comments on the above proposed example amendment to claim 1, to assist the Applicants in more effectively amending their claims.

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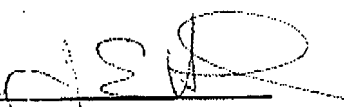
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Respectfully submitted,
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